

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : David C. Chiles et al.

Art Unit : 2143

Serial No. : 09/810,421

Examiner : Jerry B. Dennison

Filed : March 19, 2001

Conf. No. : 6501

Title : HOME-NETWORKING

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

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REPLY TO ACTION OF JULY 17, 2006

Claims 1-72 are pending with claims 1, 43, and 61 being independent.

Rejections under the Doctrine of Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 1-12, 43-52, and 61-72 stand provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-9, 12-14, 21-30, and 34-45 of copending Application No. 09/810,511. Applicants will address the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection upon indication that the claims are otherwise allowable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 43, and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,693,878 ("Daruwalla"). Alternatively, claims 1, 43, and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Network Telesystems, NTS Tunnel Builder User's Guide ("NTS") in view of Newswire Association Inc., "Ramp Networks Announces Comprehensive Virtual Network Solution; Targets Corporate Branch Offices" ("Ramp"). Alternatively, claims 1, 43, and 61, along with their dependent claims, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,671,739 ("Reed") in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,167,120 ("Kikinis") and in further view of Daruwalla. Claims 38-42 and 57-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed, Kikinis, and Daruwalla and in further view of U.S. Patent Number 6,487,6050 ("Leung").